



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Ethics Commission**

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#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

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### **NEW CAMPAIGN LAWS TAKE EFFECT ON OCTOBER 7, 2004**

**San Diego** – Today, the San Diego City Council gave final approval to the changes recommended by the Ethics Commission concerning the City's Election Campaign Control Ordinance. Although the majority of the changes will take effect on January 1, 2005, there are three amendments that will be effective on October 7, 2004:

**Contributions from Personal Trust Accounts** – Candidates and committees may accept contributions in the form of checks drawn on personal or family trust accounts as long as the contribution is properly attributed to an individual on a campaign statement.

**Mass Mailing Disclosures** – Every mass mailing (more than 200 similar pieces of campaign literature) must identify the candidates or committees responsible for sending and paying for the mailing.

(continued)

**New Campaign Laws Take  
Effect on October 7, 2004  
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**Telephone Communications** – A candidate or committee that pays for telephone calls to more than 500 individuals or households in an election cycle for the purpose of supporting or opposing a City candidate or ballot measure must include a “paid for by” disclosure during the telephone calls.

For additional information and guidelines concerning each of the provisions that will go into effect on October 7, 2004, please refer to the Fact Sheets which will be posted on the Commission’s website ([www.sandiego.gov/ethics](http://www.sandiego.gov/ethics)) on or before September 13, 2004.

A comparison chart outlining additional changes to the Election Campaign Control Ordinance that will take effect on January 1, 2005, will also be posted on the Commission’s website. Commission staff will distribute Fact Sheets concerning these amendments in the upcoming months.

The Commission is in the process of creating an “interested persons” e-mail list. If you are interested in receiving updates concerning local campaign laws, please e-mail the Commission at [ethicscommission@sandiego.gov](mailto:ethicscommission@sandiego.gov) and ask to be added to the distribution list.

The amendments to the Election Campaign Control Ordinances represent the culmination of two years of work by the Commission, the Commission staff, and the City Attorney’s Office. Many of the changes will harmonize local law with state law, while other changes are designed to prevent corruption or the appearance of corruption, and to provide the transparency necessary to re-enforce public confidence in the integrity of local campaign activities.